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Reds Oust U.S. Tourist, Accuse Him of CIA Tie

MOSCOW, Sept. 30 (UPI)—The Soviet Union has expelled a young American tourist after accusing him of subversion and holding him a night in jail, United States officials said today.

They identified him as Nicholas H. Riegg, 24, of Walnut Creek, Calif., who had been on a motor trip through the Ukraine.

The Soviet newspaper *Trud* accused Riegg of distributing propaganda and seeking to gather information for the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency. It was the first public notice of the incident.

(In Washington, the State Department said the charges against Riegg were untrue.)

Called at Embassy

American embassy officials said Riegg registered at the embassy in Moscow Sept. 1 and that they had had no further word of him until he showed up in Bucharest Sept. 12.

He told American officials there that he had been "entrapped" Sept. 8 in Kharkov and charged with trying to sell his clothes illegally. He said he was denied permission to phone the American embassy and was detained overnight.

The next day, he said, he signed a statement admitting the charges against him and then was directed to leave the country.

Embassy officials denied the *Trud* articles charge that Riegg had met with an American second secretary, Donald R. Lesh, dur-



(Associated Press Wirefoto)
Nicholas H. Riegg
Reds give him the boot

ing his stay in Moscow and then had gone to Kharkov with propaganda literature.

Lesh was ordered expelled Sept. 14 for alleged "activities incompatible with his diplomatic status."

The *Trud* account coincided with the U.S. Embassy's third attempt to obtain the release of Thomas Dawson, 24, of Annapolis,